Armenian Refugees Movements And Genocide Claims

Many reputable sources account to 1.5 - 1.6 million of Armenian population within Ottoman Empire before WW1. Only the number provided by the Armenian Istanbul Patriarchate in 1912 is way above these general numbers, being around 2 million. Oddly, Patriarchate's number is the only one taken into account in Toynbee's Blue Book and in the declaration published by Boghos Nubar and A. Aharonian before Paris Peace Conference.

Nos.	Nations and Races.	Erzeroum.	Van.	Bitlis.	Mamouret ul-Aziz.	Diyarbekir.	Sivas.	Total.	%	Total %
1. 2. 3.	Turks Circassians (immigrants) Persians	240,000 7,000 13,000	47,000	40,000	102,000	45,000	192,000	666,000 62,000 13,000 10,000	25-4	Moslems,
4. 5. 6. 7.	Lazes	35,000 40,000 25,000	3,000 32,000 40,000	35,000 42,000 8,000	20,000	30,000 25,000 27,000	35,000 15,000	3,000 242,000 182,000 140,000	9.2 16.3	Various,
9. 10. 11. 12.	Zaza-Tmbli-Tchariklis	30,000 3,000 215,000	25,000 185,000	47,000 5,000 180,000	168,000	4,000 105,000 60,000	165,000 25,000	77,000 37,000 1,018,000	1 · 4 38 · 9 4 · 7	9 -7 Christian 45 -2
13.	Greeks and other Christians -	630,000	350,000	382,000		296,000	507,000	2,615,000	1.6	100 %
Turks Turds Other	Moslems. - 666,000 45.1% Kizilba Zaza Moslems - 88,000 45.1% Yezidi	Tmbli -	77,000 37,000	9.6%	Armenians Nestorians Greeks, etc.		000 \ 45 -2%	Christians Moslems Various R	1,178,0 teligions 254,0	$00 = 45 \cdot 2$ $00 = 45 \cdot 1$ $00 = 9 \cdot 7$
TOTA	L 1,178,000 Tor.	L	254,000		TOTAL -	- 1,183,0	000	GRAND T	OTAL - 2,615,0	00

Bryce,V; The Treatment Of Armenians In The Ottoman Empire, London 1916

Annex No. 1

Nubar, B-Aharonian, A; A memorandum, The Armenian Question Before The Peace Conference, 6Feb1919

INDEX OF THE POPULATION OF THE SIX VILAYETS IN 1912

MOSLEMS	Erzeroum	Van	Bitlis	Kharpout	Diarbekir	Sivas	Total	Per religion
Turks	240.000	47.000	40.000	102.000	45.000	192,000	666.000	
Circassians	7.000		10.000	Charles Controlled	***	45.000	62.000	
Persians	13.000		- 1000000000000000000000000000000000000				13.000	
Lazes	10.000	F-1 1 4	****	****			10.000	1.178.000
Gypsies		3.000			****	2000	3.000	
Kurds sedentary	35.000	32.000	35.000	75.000	30.000	35.000	242.000	
- nomadic	40.000	40.000	42.000	20,000	25.000	15.000	182.000	
	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	Oct 14 centres	14.75.25.00 Tul. (1				200277770	
CHRISTIANS		TAUS IN						
Armenians	215.000	185,000	180.000	168.000	105.000	165.000	1.018.000	5
Nestorians								
Jacobites	22.00	18.000	15.000	5.000	60,000	25.000	123.000	
Chaldeans							***************************************	1.183.000
Greeks	12.000	200				30.000	42,000	
OTHER RELIGIONS								
Kizilbashis	25.000		8.000	80.000	27.000	****	140.000	1
Chareklis	30.000		47.000			***	77.000	254.000
Yezidis	3.000	25.000	5.000		4.000		37.000	

382.000

350,000

450.600

507.000

Grand Total

296.000

Patriarchate's 2 million figure highly contradicts with the detailed population numbers provided by British H.F.B Lynch and French Vital Cuinet for the periods ending 19th century and beginning 20th century. When we look at the numbers given by Lynch and Cuinet, it's easy to see that Patriarchate's number for before WW1 is nearly 100% higher than the British and French sources for the periods ending 19th century and beginning 20th century which is nearly impossible considering populations can not rise by that much for over only 15 to 20 years. Also the number provided by Armenian Patriarchate for Muslim population in Ottoman Empire in 1912 is 20-30% lower than the other reputable sources

		Christ	ans.		ere a la companya de
	Moslems.	Armenians.	Greeks.	Others.	Total.
TLAYET BITLIS 1 Town of Bitlis and Merkez- Caza	27,673	16,094		342 (Syrian	44,109
Other Cazas Bitlis Sanjak . Total Sanjak Bitlis .	18,593 46,266	14,306		Christians).	32,899 77,008
Sanjak Mush— Town and Caza of Mush. Other Cazas Total Sanjak Mush .	21,246 42,572 63,818	35,328 25,873 61,201			56,574 68,445 125,019
Sanjak Genj— Town and Cazas	35,370	5,583	***	***	40,953
Total of the three Sanjaks	145,454	97,184		342	242,980
VILAYET KHARPUT ² Sanjak Kharput Sanjak Dersim	120,000	85,000 8,000	1334	422	206,756
Total	182,000	93,000	1334	122	276,756
VILAYET DIARBEKR ³ Caza Palu	45,580	15,150	***		60,730
Sanjak Erzerum— Town of Erzerum Other Cazas Total Sanjak Sanjak Erzinjan Sanjak Bayazid .	0.0	67,792	484 330 814 2456	1422 1797 3219 2182 568	38,894 266,746 305,640 191,608 47,254
Total	428,495	106,768	3270	5969	544,502
Grand Total	853,758	387,746	4604	6733	1,252,841
The figures for Bitlis vilay The figures for Kharput sa Diarbekr, at the instance of Corchristians were in a majority in een estimated from various sou The figures for caza Palu I The Turkish official figure 887, have been adopted for the Except in the cases of Van to add caza Palu, a large percenta- rovide for the imperfect registration of the cazas of Van might be in er cent; and those for Erzerun	njak are al sul R. W. that sanja rces. The nave been i s, as anner e vilayet of sown and of ge might be ration of for ncreased b	Graves. K. The percent of the furnished by the ferzerum. The action are added to be added. The percent of the fermales. The percent of the fermales.	nade for had pre opulation s little be Consul British Cossibly in the figurander this ent; those	me by Constitutionally calculated the Deriverter than a Boyajean. Consular Translated those of views above gives head the	al Boyajean of alated that the sim sanjak has guess. Ide Report for layet Kharput sen in order to figures for the

H.F.B. Lynch; Armenia Travels & Studies, London 1901

questions will often be asked, how many Armenians were actually murdered or died of starvation or exposure? How many were driven into a miserable exile? Following the important collection of documents made by Viscount Bryce is a careful summary of the facts. The total Armenian population in the Turkish Empire in 1912 is here placed at between 1,600,000 and 2,000,000. Of these 182,000 escaped into the Russian Caucasus and 4,200 into Egypt. One hundred and fifty thousand still remain in Constantinople. To this figure must be added the relatively small

As this massacre of the Armenians, judged

182,000 escaped into the Russian Caucasus and 4,200 into Egypt. One hundred and fifty thousand still remain in Constantinople. To this figure must be added the relatively small number of survivors who escaped death and are now living in hiding or are scattered in distant provinces. We must conclude that a million Armenians were harried out of their homes in the peaceful villages and populous towns of Asia Minor. The murdered number from 600,000 to 800,000. The remainder, in pitiful want of the barest necessities of life, hold out their hands to the Christian fellowship of America

both by the numbers involved and the methods used, was the greatest single horror ever perpetrated in the history of humanity, the questions will often be asked, how many Ar-

In addition to sources of Lynch and Cuinet, many other reputable sources show that Armenian population with in Ottoman empire before WW1 was around 1.3-1.6 million.

Hence in Lozan Peace Confer-

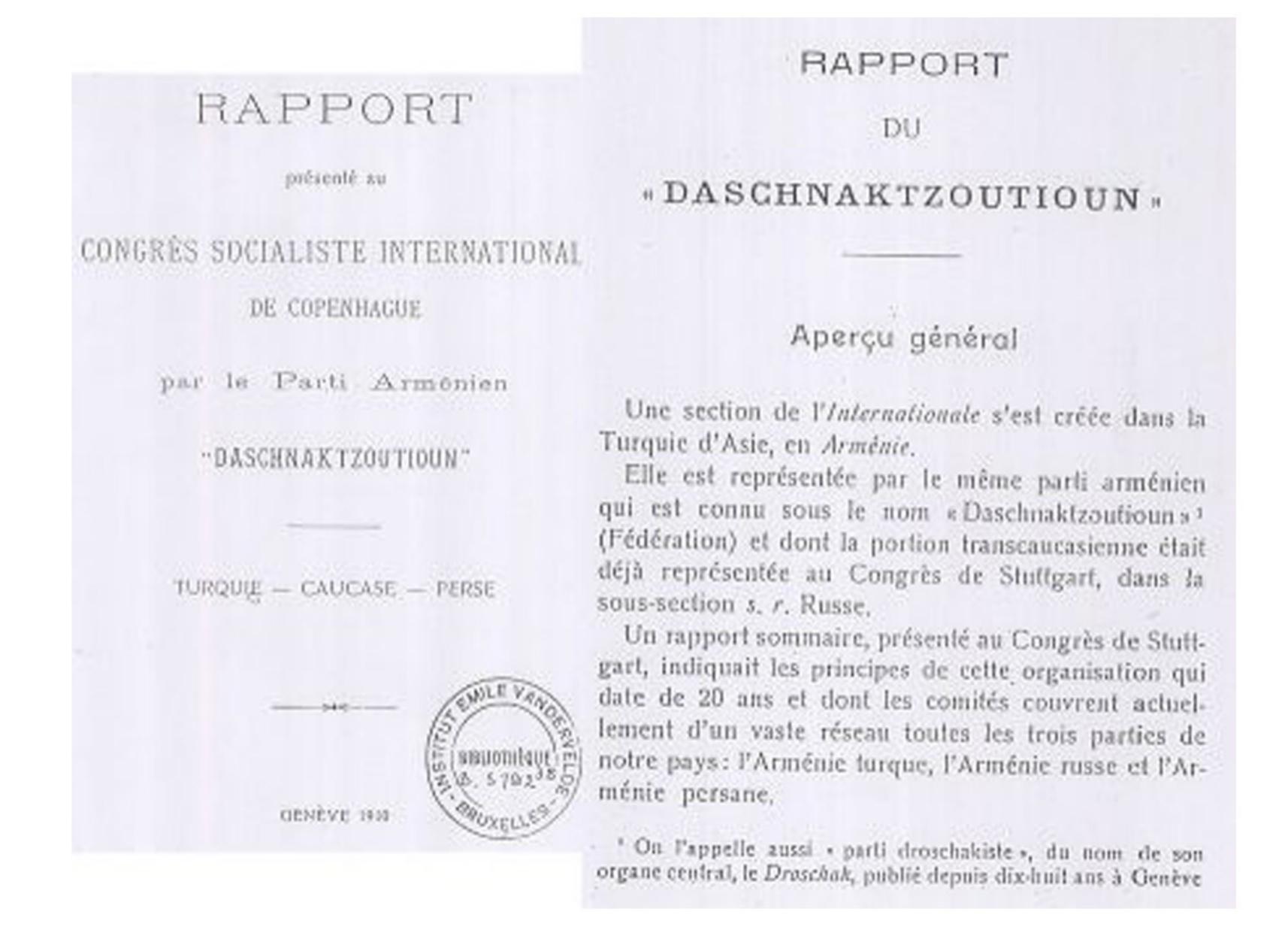
ence, 2 million figure introduced by the Armenians had been found quite an exaggeration and 1.6 million figure by David Magie had been taken into account. **Another disinformation Ottoman** Empire had been a victim of during WW1 about Ottoman Armenians is the number of Armenians that had been killed in Anatolia. It's almost like this number had been introduced to an auction in last 100 years. (Numbers given by the Red Cross is between 600.000 and 800.000, numbers given by Morgenthau is 1 million and today Armenian Diaspora claims the number to be around 1.5 to 2 million.



NewYorkTimes 15Dec.1915 Some historians that support the Armenian Genocide allegations ignore this debate by saying that; 'Numbers are meaningless, it's the crime that matters'. There is no legal document that highlights or clarifies how many Armenians had died or had been killed under what conditions during 1915 phenomenon. Today the main allegation is that most Armenians (1.5 million to 2 million) had faced ethnic cleansing in Anatolian camps or North Syrian camps.

However when we look at legal documents with European or United Nations origins for the period commencing WW1 and ending 1924, we see just the opposite of these allegations. If we take into consideration the documents of Armenian Revolutionary Federation (Dashnaktsutiun) as well as Czardom Russia and Bolshevik Russia documents together with the above mentioned documents, we can see the mobility of Armenians together with how they ended up and their fates.

The most important official document indicating the 'Armenian Armed Movements' before WW1 is the 1910 speech given by the Armenian Revolutionary Federation ideologist Mikail Varangian (aka Warangian) in Copenhagen during Second Socialist International.



The report shows that Dashnaktsutiun had organized and formed armed gangs in almost everywhere in Anatolia by adopting a terrorist movement. The report is in Belvedere archives.

Two other sources admitting the 'Armenian Armed Movements' that were seen long before WW1 are as follows:

1- Manifesto of First Prime Minister Hovhannes Katzhaznouni of Yerevan Dashnak Goverment published in Bucharest

2- The article of First USA Ambassador of Armenia Garekin Pastırmacıyan called 'Why Armenian Should Be Free – Boston 1918'

The number of Armenians who had joined in these armed forces were around 200.000 as stated by Armenia Delegation Chairman Avetis Aharonian and World Armenians Delegation Chairman Boghos Nubar in Paris Peace Conference in 1919.

The act of organizing and arming these 200.000 Armenians was naturally not something that Armenians could manage on their own initiatives financially and technically. The Armenian armed gangs were supported directly by Czardom Russia, Britain and France before WW1.

Two years before WW1 on 26th November, 1912, the confidential report sent by Russian Ambassador Zinovyev in İstanbul to Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia S. D. Sazanov included the following (Russian State Archives, Politics Department, nr 117/293):

'According to the information provided by our Van, Beyazıd, Erzurum, Trabzon Consulates, the Armenians living in these cities are on Russian side and are waiting for our armies'. [RussianStateArchives/political section n.117/293]

As paralel to what stated above, the riots of Armenian armed gangs resulted in Russians occupying Van at the beginning of WW1.

Van tradegy was described as follows in the telegraph sent by German Ambassador in İstanbul Hans Von Wangenheim to Ministery of Foreign Affairs of Germany on 10th May, 1915:

'Armenians in the city of Van started rioting and started to attack Muslim villages and the castle. The Turkish headquarters in the castle had lost 300 soldiers and as a result of the street combats for days, the rebels took over the city. Russia occupied the city on 17th May, 1915. Armenians sided with Russia afterwards and started to massacre Muslims. Approximately 80.000 Muslims around Bitlis started to flee. [Wangenheim, Deutschisches und Armenien 1914-1918, Postdam 1919 p.65]

The massacres of Muslims by Armenians were also documented in Czardom Russia archives. A report sent by Russian Commander Brigadier Bolhovitinov in Caucasus to headquarters on 11th December, 1915 included the following:

'The Armenian Volunteer Legions had killed Muslims brutally with racist motives.' [Brigadier General Leonid Bolhovitinov's Report, 1915, Russian Military History Archives (RGVIA) fond 2100, list 1, folder 557, p. 303-307]

While these tradegies were taking place in East Anatolia, Russian, British and French were helping Armenians getting armed in East Mediterranean.

The telegraph dated 5th November, 1914 sent by Francois George Picot and French Middle Ambassador Defrance of Egypt stated:

'Greece accepted to send 15.000 rifles and 2 million bullets to the volunteer legions in Syria and in a possible intervention of France in Syria there are 30.000 – 35.000 volunteers readily avaliable to side with France in the region'. [Guerre Mondiale Turquie Vol.867 XCIII-document 237,Legion d'Orient 1914-1918]

The report sent by the French Admiral in Syrian shore to the British military headquarters in Egypt indicated that the riot in Cilicia had lasted for over one month as of 28th May, 1915 and a total of 300 Turkish gendarmes had been killed. [U.K.Archives W.O. 157/691/8, 28 April 1915, Cairo]

The memorandum sent by Russian Ambassador to British Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 24th Feb, 1915 expressed that an Armenian from Cilicia had contacted Kont Warentzoff Dachkoff in Caucasus and had indicated that they had gathered a force of 15.000 to raid the transportation lines of the Turkish Army but that they had not had enough arms and arsenal to perform and those could have been provided by British and French over through Alexandretta Harbour. [U.K. Archives F.O. 371/2484 No.22083,15 Feb.1915]

As can be seen clearly from documents and information like the ones mentioned above, Armenian Dashnak Forces were committing war crimes behind the battles when Ottoman Empire called all men to the army to fight in Çanakkale, Palestine and Caucasus battles. This situation resulted in Ottoman Empire deciding to relocate Armenians in war zones as well as Armenians in Anatolia who were working for Dashnak Party to Syrian region.

The ones claiming that there is a genocide are accusing Ottoman Empire of ethnically cleansing 1.5 million Armenians in the Empire with the application of this relocation decision dated 24th April, 1915.

Many official documents were obtained in relation to the fate of Armenians forced to relocate during WW1 and after which were highly contradicting with the idea of a genocide.

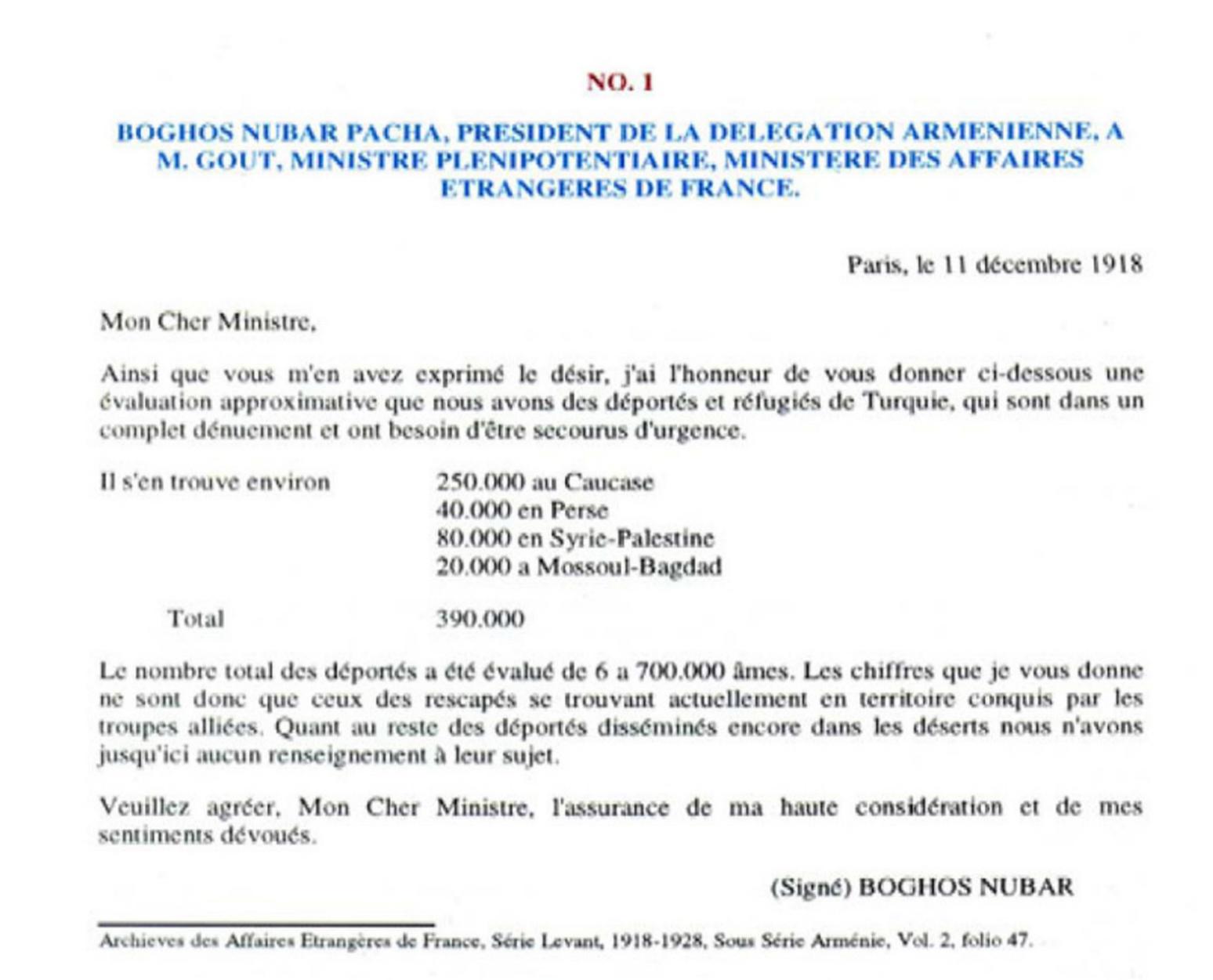


Although Ottoman Empire decided to relocate Armenians in above mentioned locations, Batumi Ambassador of Britain P. Stevens indicated that many Armenians were not even subject to obligatory relocation and were taken away by Russians to Caucasus in the report he sent to London on 25th Feb, 1916.
[Halaçoğlu, Ermeniler: Sürgün Ve Göç, p.84-85]

[Photo: Armenian Refugees From Turkey arrived in Russia, 1914- Harold Buxton; Travel & Politics in Armenia, 1914]

This is also confirmed in the report of British Lord Major Found which he wrote about 1915. 250.000 Armenians moved to Caucasus Armenia from Anatolia fighting against illnesses and war conditions. [U.K.FO 96/205]

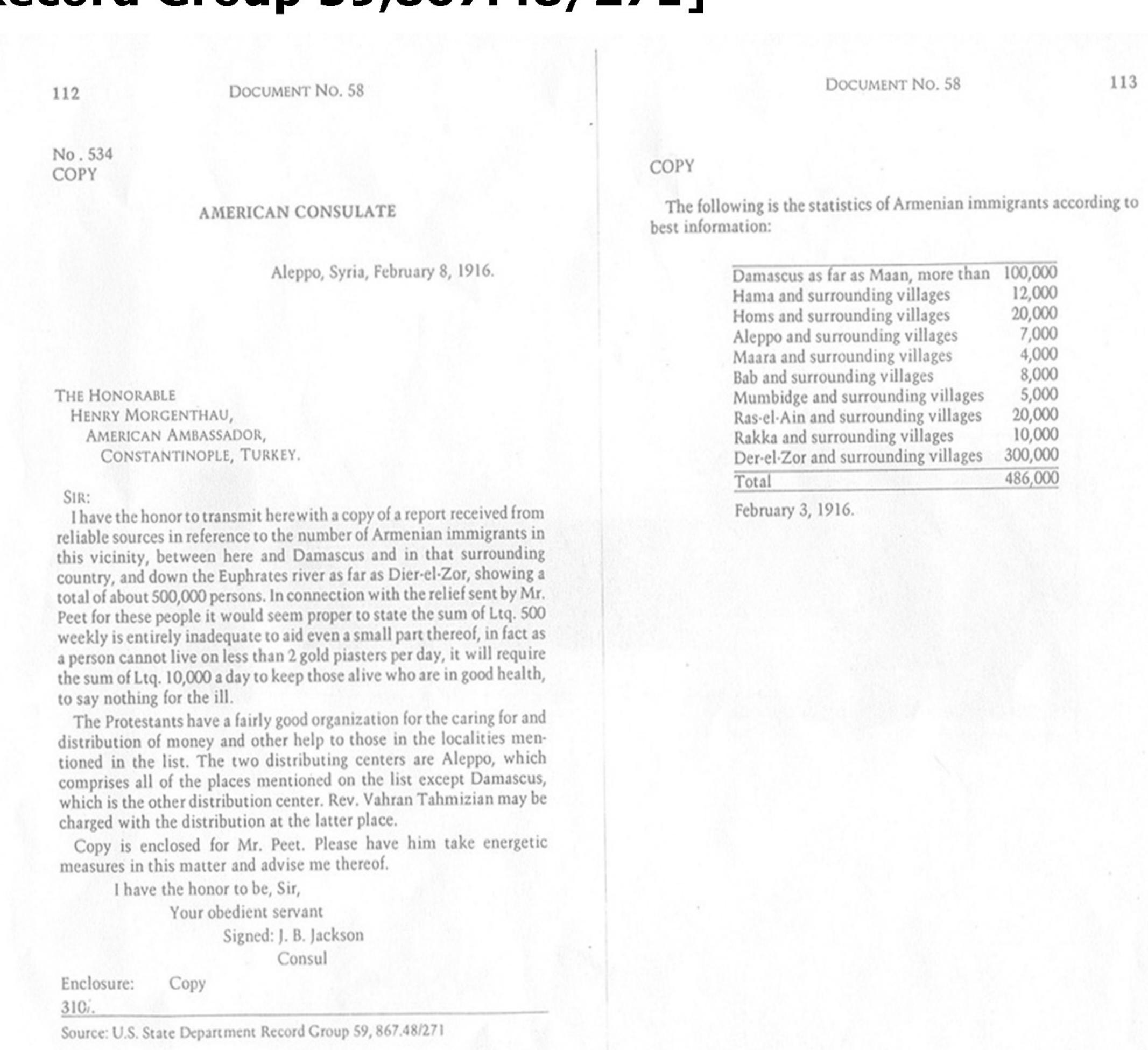
Last winter, about 100,000 Belgian refugees landed on these shores. Even for a rich country like England it was deemed a considerable tax to organize relief and hospitality for such a number. Since May of this year, 250,000 Armenians have poured into the Russian Caucasus from Turkey. How to feed, clothe and house such a number is a problem beyond the power of the Armenians resident in the Caucasus. The Russian authorities have their hands already overfull but they are providing such sanitary precautions against dysentery, cholera and other sicknesses as are urgent. They cannot do more.



250.000 figure was confirmed in the report sent by Armenian National Delegation Chairman Boghos Nubar to Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France in addition to the figure of 40.000 Ottoman Armenians being in Iran.

When we can reasonably confirm that 250.000 Ottoman Armenians arriving at Caucasus and 40.000 Ottoman Armenians arriving at Iran at the beginning of WW1, we also obtain some other related information from US National Archives:

American Counsel J. B. Jackson of Aleppo indicated in the letter he sent to American Ambassador Henry Morgenthau in İstanbul(8February1916) that 486.000 Armenians were located in the camps between Aleppo and Damascus and there were two charities helping the migrants. [U.S. Archives State Department Record Group 59,867.48/271]



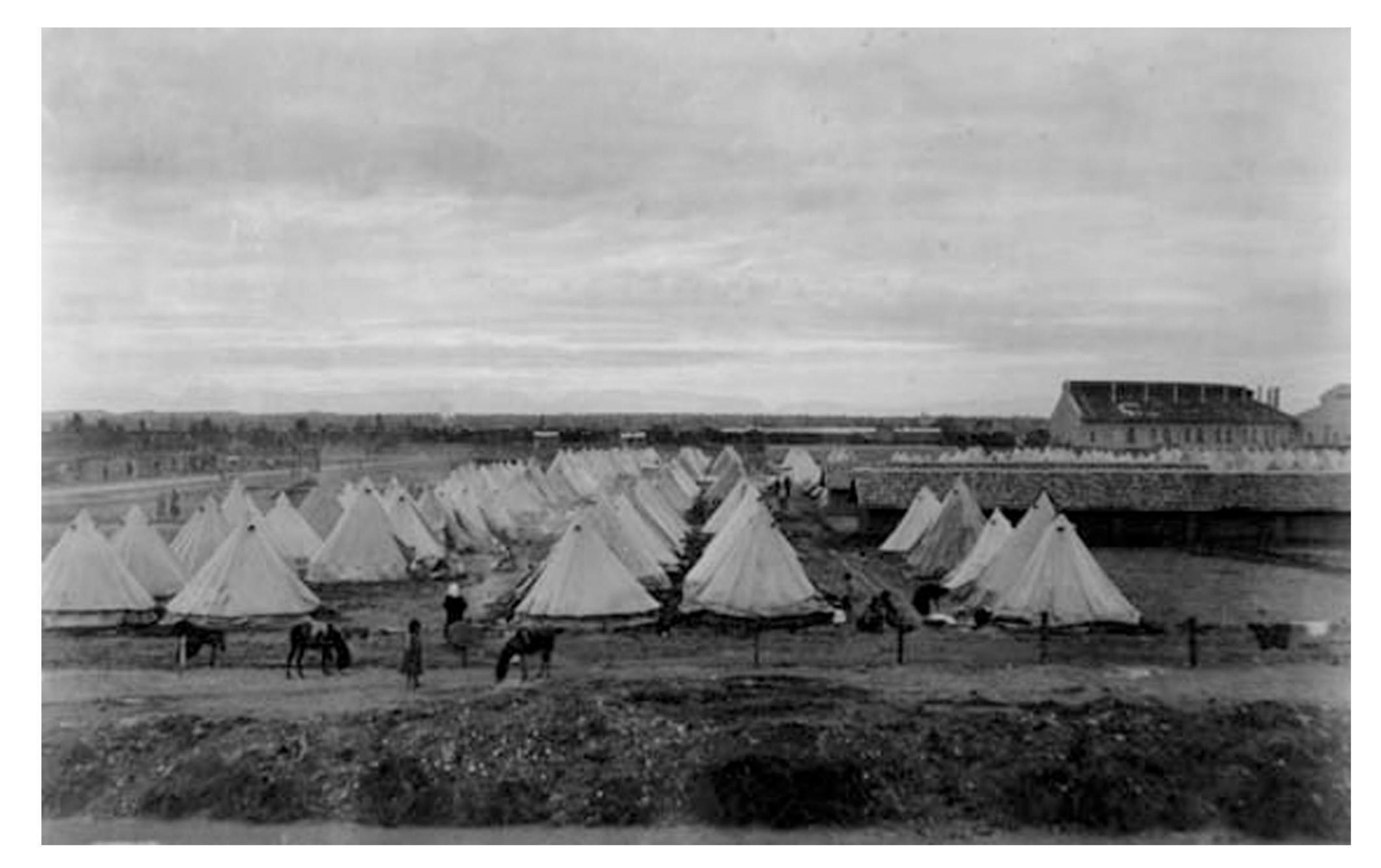
[---The ones claiming that there was a genocide can not answer the question of why Ottoman Goverment allowed American charities or American ambassadors to help the Ottoman Armenian refugees located in camps between Aleppo and Damascus, locations which were under the control of Ottoman Goverment back then.---]

We can provide more detailed information related to Armenian refugees in Caucasus and Syria from documents obtained after WW1.

WW1 ended with Mondros Armistice signed on 30th October, 1918 for Ottoman Empire. In 1918 after the war when the Bolshevik Revolution was over, the massacres of Muslim civilians in East and South East Anatolia by Armenian Dashnak Government which was continuing to fight, reached the maximum possible.

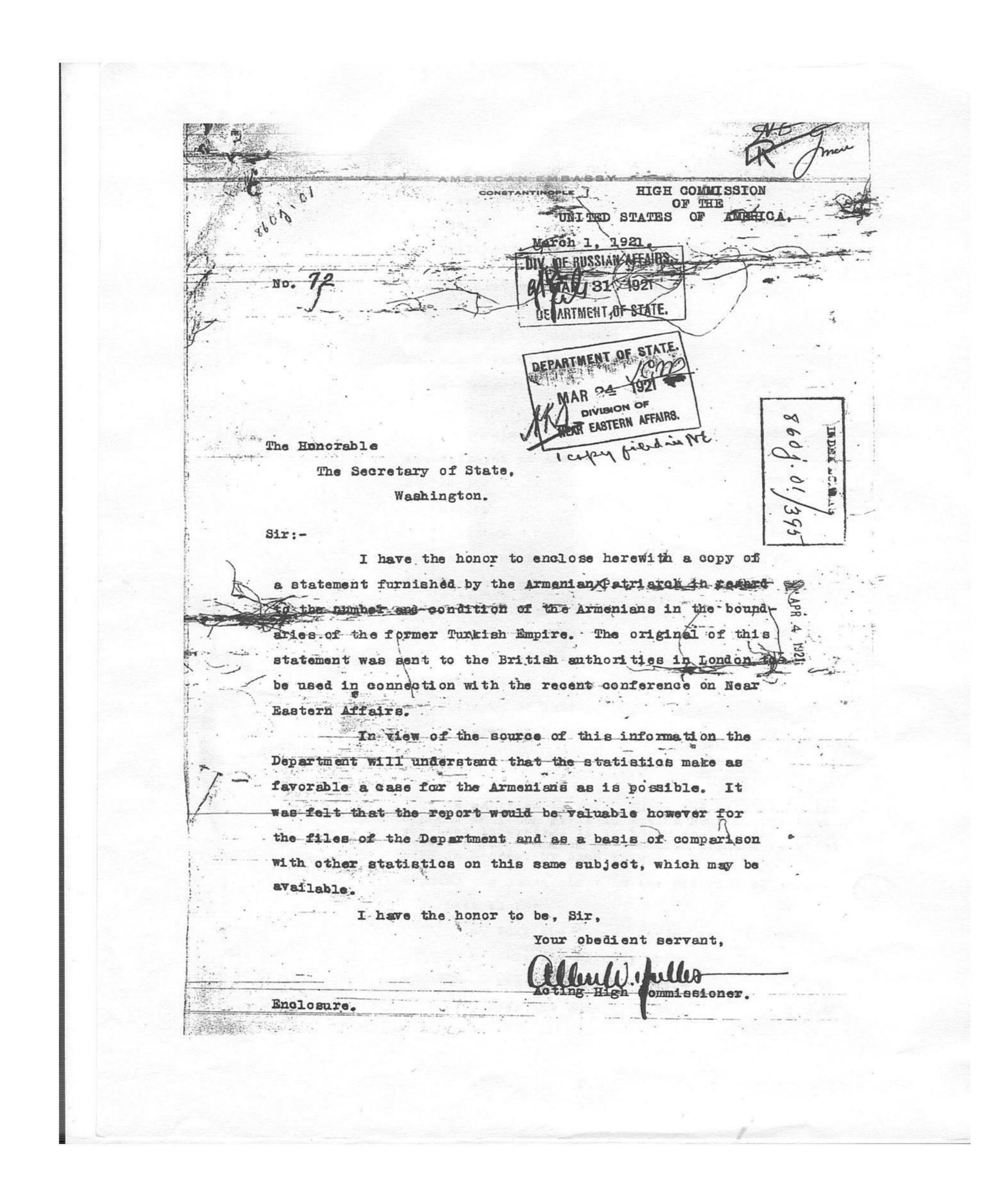
In the same year, Cilicia was Occupied by the French (on 24th December, 1918). It is seen that after Cilicia was occupied by the French, some Armenian refugees in Syria were relocated here.

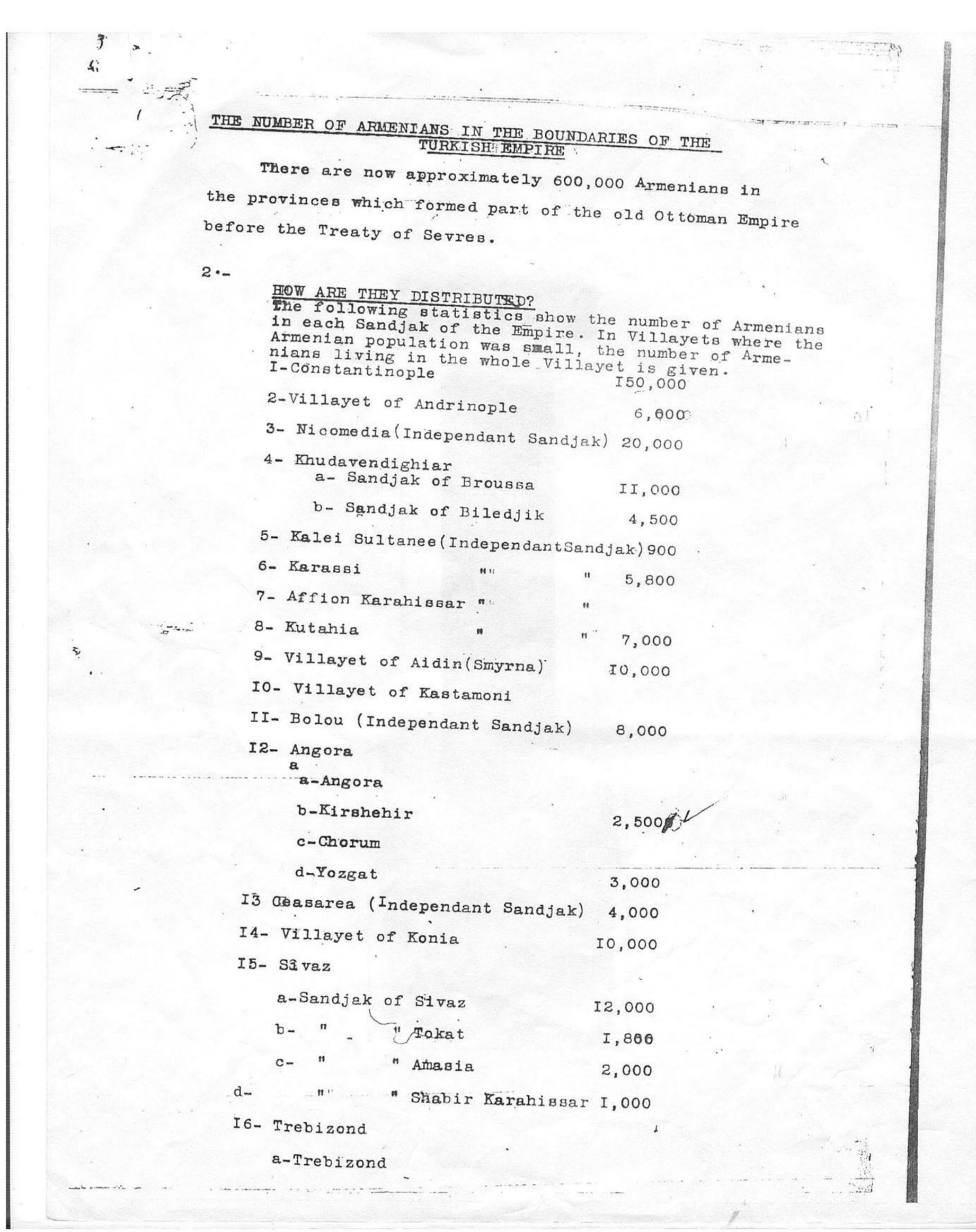
[Photo:George R. Swain(Adana/Turkey). Francis W. Kelsey and Near East Expedition of 1919-1920]



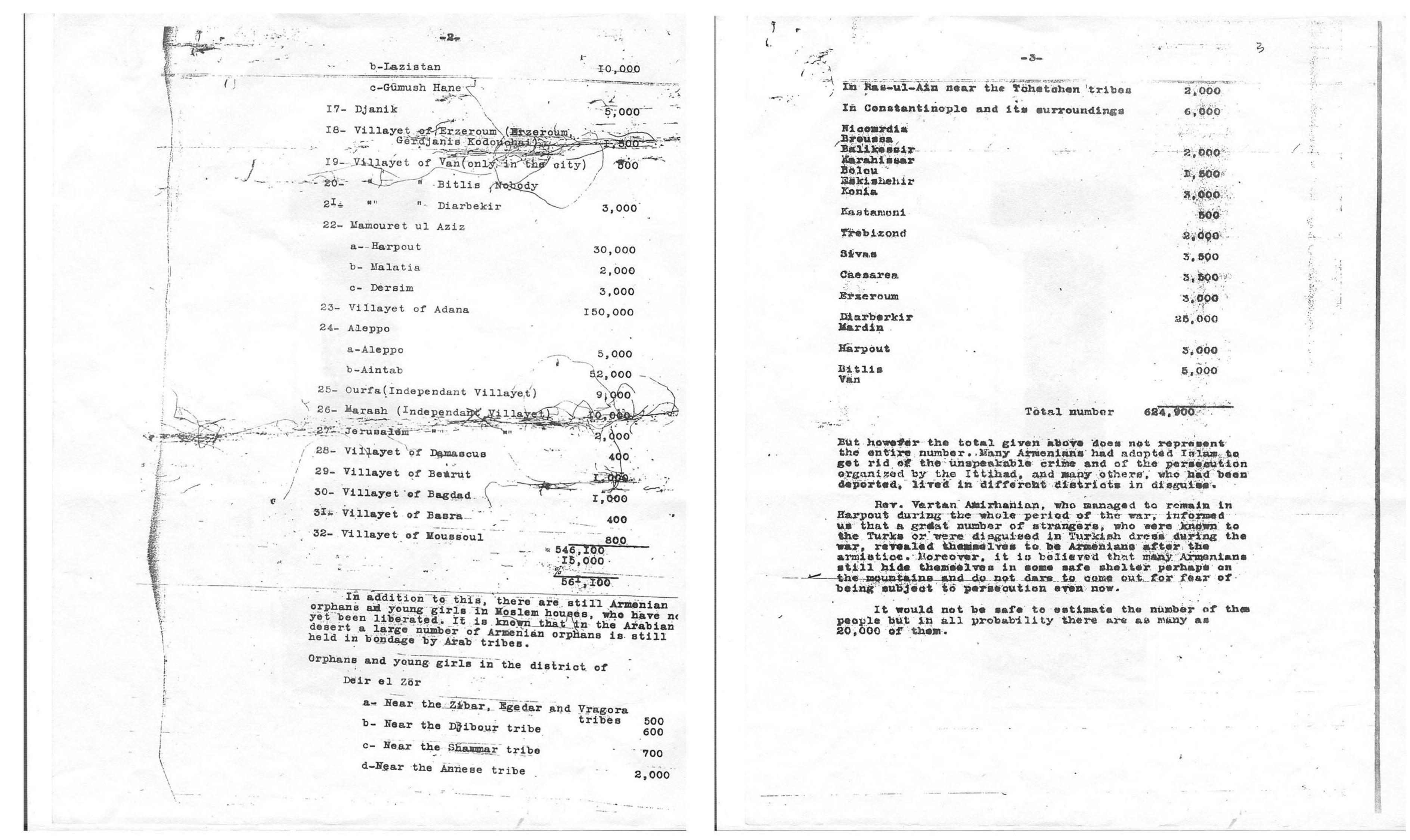
[Photo:George R. Swain Adana/Turkey. Francis W. Kelsey and Near East Expedition of 1919-1920]

However we obtain the exact number of Armenians living under Ottoman Empire after WW1 from the official document presented to the US by İstanbul American High Council. This document is in US National Archives and was confirmed by İstanbul Armenian Patriarchate.





According to this official document, there were 624.900 Armenians living under Ottoman Empire in 1921. We also know that apparently around 200.000 were located in Cilicia (in Adana, Antep, Maraş etc.) which was under French control.



[U.S. Archives NARA, T 1192 R2.860J01/395]

This document shows that there were 624.900 Armenians under Ottoman borders after WW1 until these Armenians were refugees again.



There is also another visual document related to Armenians obtained for these years. The photo of Armenian refugees living in Novorossisk (Black Sea shore – South Russia) taken by G. P. Lloyd is in Frank Carpenter archives and it was taken in 1920. Unfortunately we can not obtain any information related to the number of Armenian refugees in Novorossisk.

It is discussed in the Near East Relief Report dated 31st December, 1921 that around 500.000 Armenian refugees in Dashnak Government in Yerevan (which was in Caucasus) were being provided aid.

The bargest single unit of relief work done by the Near East Relief has been in the portion of Transcaucasia known as Russiau Armenia. I comply one half of the people now living in this area owe their transcaucasia or loss directly to the work of the Near East Relief. The product and other officials of the Armenian Republic a year ago amountly declared that America literally saved the country from star-armed Cartainly not less than 560,000 people in this area at that they ware dependent upon relief. Many thousands had died of

[Report Of The Near East Relief, For The Year Ending 31 December 1921, Washington Government Printing office 1922]

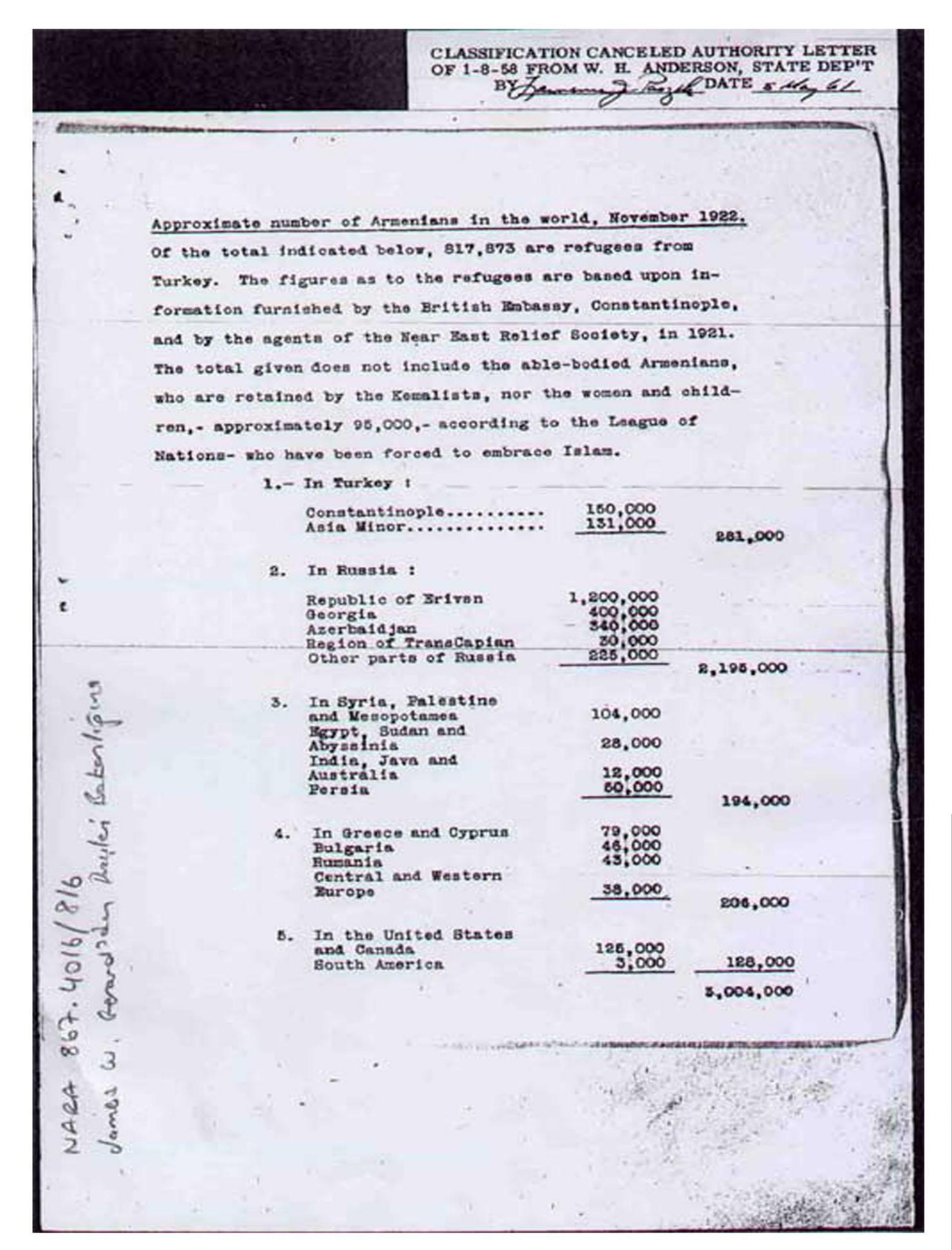
The exact number of Armenian refugees who went to Armenia during the Turkish – Armenian War which started with WW1 and ended with Gümrü Treaty signed on 3rd December, 1920 and Bolshevik Russians occupying Armenia on 4th December, 1920, was provided by Fridjof Nansen, Refugees High Commissar of League of Nations.

Dr. Nansen (Norway), replying to the delegate of India, said that the State of Erivan had 1,000,000 inhabitants, of whom 400,000 were Armenians who had taken refuge there during the war.

Fridjof Nansen indicated that 400.000 of the 1 million population of Yerevan Armenian Government was comprised of refugees who came during the war as answer to the question of an Indian representative during the 8th meeting of League of Nations held on 19th October, 1928.

Even if Fridjof Nansen did not give any indications related to the number of Armenians in whole Caucasus or South Russia, he definitely indicated that 400.000 Ottoman Armenians moved to Caucasus Armenia.

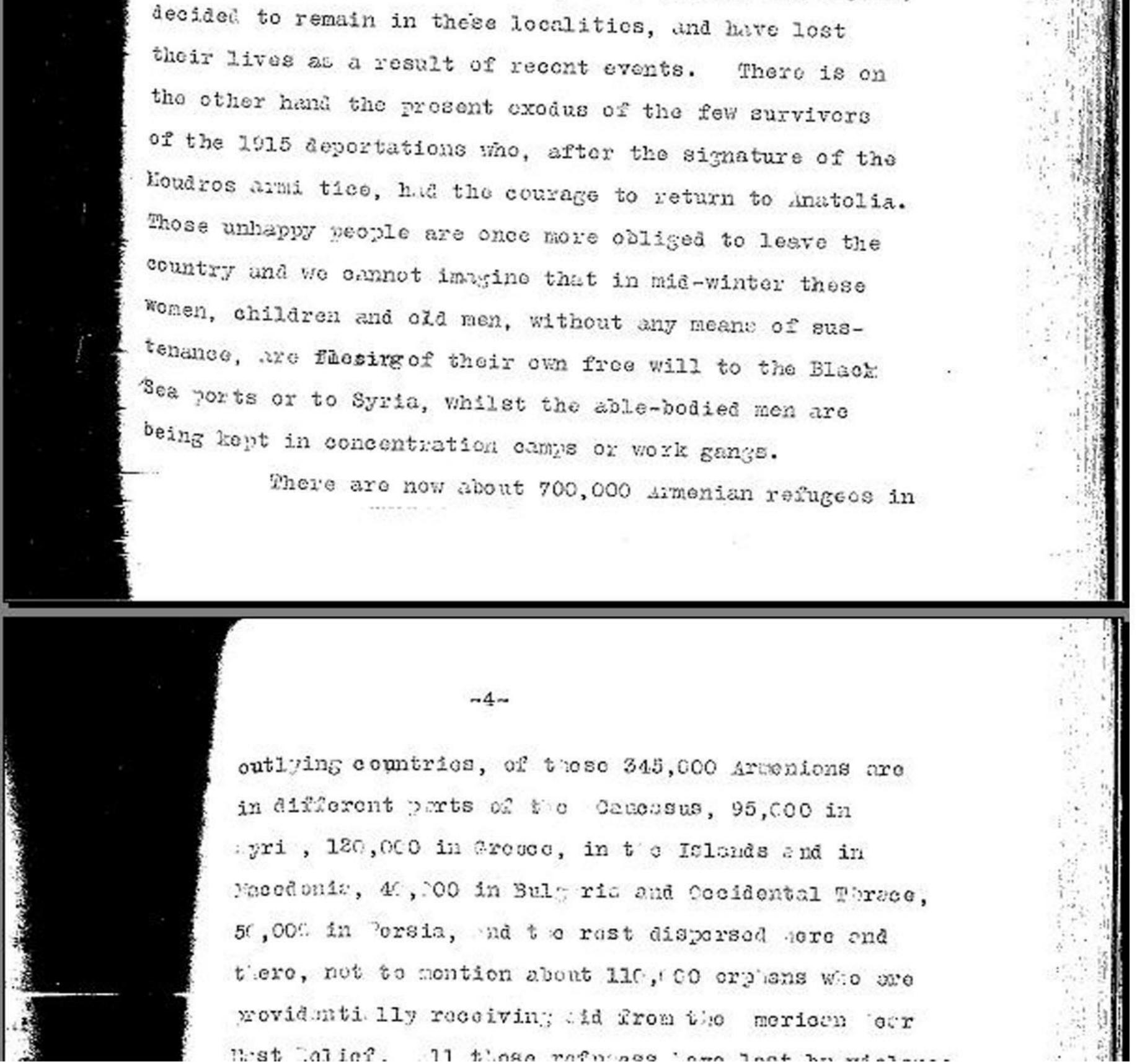
Meanwhile the Ankara Treaty signed between France and Ankara government resulting in France withdrawing from Cilicia also resulted in 200.000 Armenians leaving the region (who were located there before) and migrating to other countries without ever coming back. 500.000 Muslims being massacred by Armenian Armed Forces in Anatolia made it impossible for the Armenians and Turks living together.



This refugee movement was also indicated in the declaration prepared by Armenian National Delegation for Lausanne Treaty on 2nd February, 1923.

[League Of Nation, Armenia, Geneva, February 2nd.1923, 0.153. M.56 1923 VII]

The document about the 'Armenian Population Around The World' dated 1922 and included in US National Archives gives information about the Armenian emigration that started with the French withdrawing from Cilicia. We can follow the refugee movements of the 624.900 Armenians in Ottoman Empire beginning 1921 with the help of the activities of League of Nations. [U.S. Archives, NARA 867.4016/816.Janunary 10,1923]



CONCLUSION:

From the beginning of WW1 to 1921, there were 624.900 Armenians in Ottoman Empire, at least 400.000 in Yerevan Armenia and finally at least 40.000 in Iran. Unfortunately we can not conclude as to how many Ottoman Armenians immigrated to South Russia, Georgia, Egypt, Greece, USA or Europe.

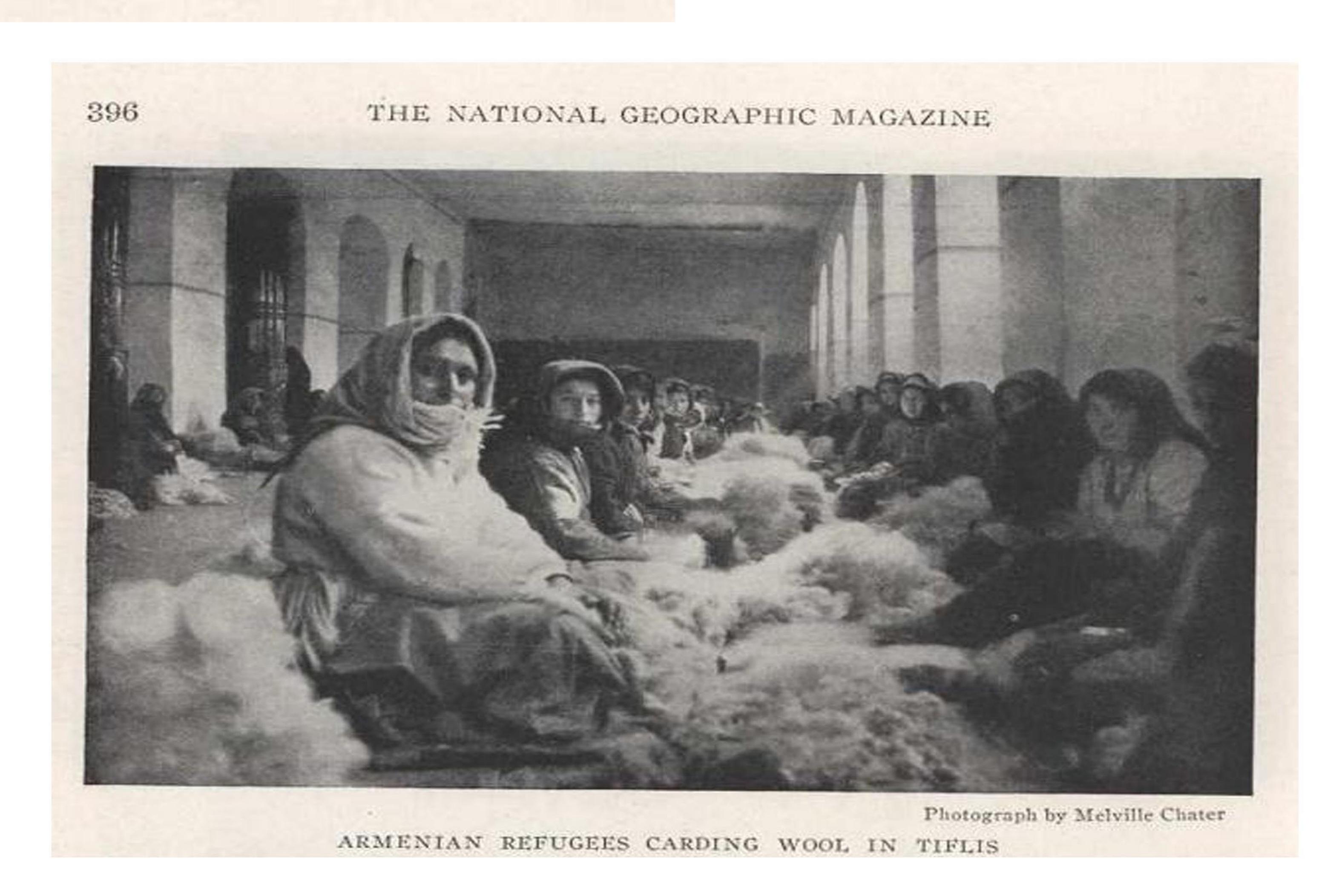
However the most certain thing we get out of all these documents is that the Armenian population which was around 1.6 million before WW1 was at least around 1.1 million after WW1.

HILLER HINC & DCISHAGGAGE & LUGGE

SUCCORING 20,000 ARMENIANS IN TIFLIS

Mix solely with the Georgians and you would never realize that, huddled in Tiflis' back streets, there are some 20,000 Armenian refugees who are being cared for by the American Committee. These

--National Geographic Magazine Volume XXXVI Number Five November 1919--



THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA.

This population was divided, according to race, as follows:

	Number.	Percent.
Armenian. Tartar, Turk, Turkoman, and Karapapak Russian and Greek Kurd Yezide and Gypsy Georgian	1,293,000 588,000 110,000 82,000 73,000 13,000	60 27 5 4 3

Since 1917, as a result of war operation, a part of the Mohammedan population has emigrated from the Armenian republic, and, on the other hand, 300,000 Armenians from Turkish Armenia have immigrated into or sought refuge in the Armenian republic.

No reliable statistics can be formed concerning deaths and births and emigrants and immigrants during the last two years.

According to the same Russian statistics of 1917, the Armenian population remaining within the boundaries of the two newly formed Transcaucasian states of Georgia and Azerbeijan, numbers approximately 494,000. There are also nearly 200,000 native Armenians and about 70,000 refugee Armenians in the northern Caucasus, the eastern coast towns of the Black Sea. and in southern Russia. In Persian Armenia there are 140,000 Armenians and other native Christians.

We may say with confidence that the greater portion of the Armenian population now in foreign countries is awaiting the first favorable opportunity for returning to Armenia.

The Republic Of Armenia
A Memorandum
On The Recognition Of The
Government Of The Republic
Of Armenia, Submitted By
The Special Mission Of The
Republic Of Armenia To The
United States.
Presented by Mr. Lodge,
November 10,1919
Washington Government
Printing Office 1919